encouraging progress has been made in this regard, but no commercial agreements have as yet been concluded for joint bidding by ONGC Videsh Ltd. and any Russian oil major for oil and gas blocks in Russia.

(c) In respect of Sakhalin-I project, OVL will get a share in production as per the formula given in the Production Sharing Agreement (PSA). Limited production of oil and gas from the project is expected from 2005-06 and full production is expected from the last quarter of 2006-07.

US'S assistance in energy sector

2889. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA:
SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether US has offered its help to India to meet the energy requirements in the next decade through new and sophisticated technologies in this field; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereon?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Production of crude oil

†2890. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY:
SHRI BALAVANT *ALIAS* BAL APTE:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the total annual production of crude oil in tonnes in the country at present;

(b) the total import of oil in tonnes;

(c) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to increase crude oil production in the country; and

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.